



## INSIGHTS EVENTS

TUESDAY 23/04

### **APD Conference**

13:45 PM – 16:30 PM, L-Bank Rotunde

#### **Conference Part 1** / Panel Discussion

The Use of AI in the Animation Industry

Speakers: Volha Paulovich (Co-Founder & COO PentoPix, USA), Christina Caspers-Roemer (Managing Director TRIXTER GmbH, Germany), Thomas Kornmaier (Writer for TV/Film & Audio Serials, Germany), Andy Cochrane (The AV Club Productions, Immersive Content Creator, USA)

#### **Conference Part 2** / Panel Discussion

Benefits and Challenges of Co-Productions (In cooperation with Swiss Films)

Speakers: Adrien Chef (Producer & Co-Owner, Paul Thiltges Distributions, Luxembourg), Nicolas Burlet (Producer & Founder, Nadasdy Film, Switzerland)

*The event is open to FMX, ITFS & APD accredited attendees. It will also be recorded and will be available as VoD to all APD accredited participants. The event will be held in English.*

WEDNESDAY 24/04

### **Focus Ireland: School Presentation: Institute of Art, Design and Technology & Ballyfermot College of Further Education**

10 AM, Cinema

Introducing two of the most respected animation course providers in Ireland, these colleges have taught award-winning graduates who are now shaping the country's fast-growing animation industry.

Speaker: David Quin (IADT), Orla Daly, Gwen Fagan (BCFE)

### **Panel: Be Organized! – Talk about International Film Associations for Animation**

10 AM, Festival Centre, Eugen-Bolz-Saal

Members of various associations talk about why it is important for everyone in the industry to work together on behalf of animated film and what tasks associations can take on – in society, in politics and, of course, for their members.

Speaker: Elie Chapuis ([GSFA, Groupement Suisse du Film d' Animation](#)), Deanna Morse (President [ASIFA](#)), Agnes Li ([ASIFA China](#)), Nina Prange ([AG Animationsfilm/ASIFA Germany](#))

### **School Presentation: LISAA - Over 30 Years of Shaping Animation Students into Industry Professionals**

12:30 PM, Cinema

The presentation gives an overview of the animation curriculum at LISAA – School of Animation & Game, which covers the entire animation production pipeline of the school. It features visuals from the students' current school projects as well as films made by students during the last year.

Speaker: Fahim Boukhelifa



### **Work in Progress: German Projects & Co-productions**

12:30 PM, Festival Centre, Eugen-Bolz-Saal

Filmmakers and producers provide insights into brand new animated feature film, short film series and cross media projects that are in various stages of production. The teams behind the projects will provide information on artistic decisions, production processes and on how they dealt with the many challenges they had and still have to face.

Work in Progress is also a platform for professional players looking for cooperation and financing partners.

#### **1. Blood & Clay**

Germany, in production / 3d, hybrid / drama, fantasy / shortfilm, TV special / ca. 25 min. / adults

Speaker: Martin Rahmlow (director producer, [MR Animation](#)), Albert Radl (director producer, [radl animation](#)), Onni Pohl (technical director, [Onnimation](#))

#### **2. Sidi Kaba and the Gateway Home**

France, Germany, Belgium, Luxemburg / closing of financing / 2D, 3D animation / feature length film 80 min. / families and children, 7 – 12 years old

Speaker: Rony Hotin (director), Sébastien Onomo (producer [Special Touch Studios](#)), Vanessa Ciszewski (producer Luftkind Filmverleih)

#### **3. Nitso and the Very Hairy Alphabet**

Germany, In production, delivery October 2024 / Harmony 2D cut out / series 26 x 7' / preschool, children up to 7 years old, parents, teachers

Speaker: Eliza Plocieniak-Alvarez (director, creator), Nicola Wulf (line producer, creative producer Eagle Eye)

### **FilmTalk: Things that Happen - The Pitfalls of the Ordinary**

2 PM, Filmmakers Lounge

A series of short clips depicting authentic experiences of people facing discrimination in their daily lives was produced during a collaboration of the University of Stuttgart and HfK+G\*.

Speaker: Davor Bakara, Michaela Köhler, Simon Schillings, Lisa Schöllhammer, Anne Weiß

### **Lecture: VR and Society – Women VR & Making of Hölderlin's Echo**

3 PM, Festival Centre, Eugen-Bolz-Saal

#### **Virtual Reality - A New Medium Needs A New Approach and Vocabulary**

Can virtual reality be a matriarchal medium and what does this mean for young women exploring the medium? Julia Bruton of VR Women talks about the possibilities and implications involved in the creation of virtual reality, but also in its perception by individual experiencers.

Speaker: [Julia Bruton](#)

#### **Making of "Hölderlin's Echo"**

Co-director Hannes Rall will present the making of the VR game "Hölderlin's Echo", which imagines the life of the famous poet in interactive animated sequences. He will also give an insight into his current research projects with AI, which experiment with generative replication of Chinese painting.

Speaker: Hannes Rall

### **Presentation: Film Commission Featuring... Chasing Carrots**

4:30 PM, Filmmakers Lounge

[Chasing Carrots](#) is a game design studio with 12 years of experience and 4 games already under their belt – amongst them the incredibly successful "Halls of Torment". They let us peek behind the curtain as they present their current projects. Followed by a Get together, starting at 5:30 pm.

Speaker: Patrick Wachowiak, Dominik Schneider



**Panel: European Animation Film Festivals in Times of Transformation**

5:30 PM, Festival Centre, Eugen-Bolz-Saal

Festival representatives from the regions of Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes (France), Baden-Württemberg (Germany), Catalonia (Spain) and Lombardy (Italy) will talk about how animated film festivals can stay future-proof and find their audience, and what potential and opportunities arise for society. Free admission.

Speaker: [Guillaume Calop](#) (Les Arcs Festival), [Carolina López Caballero](#) (Animac), [Silvia Pareti](#) (Festival Piccolo Grande Cinema), [Annegret Richter](#) (ITFS)

**THURSDAY 25/04**

**Master Class: Sync or Swim - Navigating the Channels of Visual Storytelling**

10:00 AM, Cinema

Composer Nik Phelps conducts an investigation into the craft of putting music onto film and screens his favorite animated films with wonderful music.

Speaker: [Nik Phelps](#)

**Workshop-Talk: [VeDRA Dialogue](#) - The Nominees of the German Animation Screenplay Award**

12:30 PM, Cinema

Marco Kreuzer, board member of VeDRA – Association for Film and Television Dramaturgy, talks to the German Animation Screenplay Award nominees about dramaturgical work and screenplay development based on their nominated screenplays. Speaker: Marco Kreuzer

Guests: [Sunna Isenberg](#) (Producer), [Giles New](#) (Writer), [Seiron Self](#) (Writer), [Beke Rienitz](#) (Screenwriter)

**Workshop Talk: [Sultana's Dream](#) - Behind the Film!**

3 PM, Cinema

The director Isabel Herguera gives a deep insight into the making of her film, whose characters and stories were created in close collaboration with Indian women and which at the same time can be seen as a universal film about women worldwide.

Speaker: Isabel Herguera, Fabian Driehorst, Gianmarco Serra

*The film "Sultana's Dream" will be screened on Friday 26/04 at 10:30 PM in the Cinema.*

**Studio Presentation: [Mighty Oaks & Dwarf Studios](#)**

5:30 PM, Cinema

**Crafting an Animation Studio**

Join Michaela Olsen, [Mighty Oak's](#) Executive Creative Director, sharing their journey in the animation biz and recent Emmy nomination.

Speaker: Michaela Olsen

**Unstoppable Stop-Motion**

[dwarf studios](#) has survived the era of CGI with its speciality in stop-motion. Noriko Matsumoto talks about how the studio manages today's challenges and gives a brief look at some of their iconic characters and their creation.

Speaker: Noriko Matsumoto

**AniX Awards**

7 PM, Filmmakers Lounge

The AniX Awards on Thursday at 7 pm in the Filmmakers' Lounge are the new ITFS format for the industry. Host Olivier Samter will present the German Animation Screenplay Awards, the Trickstar Business Award and the ASIFA Prize.



FRIDAY 26/04

**Studio Presentation: Miyu Distribution - The Last Link Between Festivals and Audience**

10 AM, Cinema

Luce Grosjean talks about the specificities, problems and solutions of successful distribution of short animated films by authors and presents a selection of short film highlights from the Miyu distribution catalogue.

Speaker: Luce Grosjean

**Focus Ireland: Master Class: Dream Logic Studios & Piranha Bar**

10 AM, Festival Centre, Eugen-Bolz-Saal

A master class by two leading animation production companies in Ireland, covering growth, relationships with broadcasters and co-producing partners, as well as how to harness the potential of the latest animation technology.

Speaker: Brian Willis (Dream Logic Studios), Nicky Gorgan (Piranha Bar)

**Series Special: Making of Fritzi and Sophie – A Borderless Friendship**

12:30 PM, Cinema

The series' making-of gives an insight into the pipeline to production in 3D and shows clips of the motion capture filming. GDR, Leipzig 1989. Fritzi (12) and Sophie (12) are inseparable friends – until Sophie has to secretly flee to the West with her mother. But Fritzi refuses to accept that she will never see Sophie again.

Speaker: Matthias Bruhn, Ralf Kukula, Thomas Meyer-Hermann

"Fritzi and Sophie – A Borderless Friendship Ep. 1-4" will be screened as a world premiere on Friday 26/04, 3 PM, Cinema.

**Focus Ireland: Panel: Ireland Animated - Talent Development & Opportunities**

12:30 PM, Festival Centre, Eugen-Bolz-Saal

In this panel, producers and industry experts discuss innovative talent development initiatives and current as well as future opportunities within Ireland's animation landscape.

Speaker: Deirdre Barry (NTAA), Moe Honan (Moetion Films), Suzanne Kelly (RTE), Andrew Kavanagh (Kavaleer), Ronan McCabe (Animation Ireland)

**Focus Ireland: Studio Presentation: Boulder Media, Studio Meala & Elk Studios**

3 PM, Festival Centre, Eugen-Bolz-Saal

In this session of presentations, three exciting Irish animation studios give an insight into how their creatively-driven practices allow them to produce world class content.

Speaker: Paul O'Flanagan, Colm Tyrrell (Boulder Media), Sean Cunningham (Studio Mela), Ian Hamilton (Elk Studios)

**School Presentation: Experimental Animation at the Kunsthochschule für Medien Köln (KHM)**

5:30 PM, Cinema

Prof. Isabel Herguera presents an assortment of animated films produced by students at the Kunsthochschule Köln (KHM) over the last few years. KHM regards animation as a constantly evolving art form which demands skills and creativity as well as the willingness to experiment and to take creative risks.

Speaker: Isabel Herguera

**Focus Ireland: Studio Presentation: Cartoon Saloon & Lighthouse Studios**

5:30 PM, Festival Centre, Eugen Bolz Saal

Located in Kilkenny, Ireland, Cartoon Saloon and Lighthouse Studios have built a special animation hub for award-winning shorts, feature films and TV series.

Speaker: Katja Schumann (Cartoon Saloon), Harry Harty, Cormac Slevin (Lighthouse Studios)



SATURDAY 27/04

**Workshop-Talk: Sauvages! - The Making of an Ecological Tale**

10 AM, Cinema

Nicolas Bulet ([Nadasdy Film](#)) gives us a glimpse into the making of "Sauvages!" the new feature film of Claude Barras. The film explores the friendship between Keria and Selaï amidst their discovery of the rainforest and the ecological crisis it faces.

Speaker: Nicolas Bulet

**Masterclass: Impactful *Storytelling* Beyond Borders, Gender, and Medium**

10 AM, Festival Centre, Eugen-Bolz-Saal

This master class by Ebele Okoye offers participants an in-depth exploration of storytelling principles and techniques, which are not limited to animation but also applicable across various realms of film-making.

Speaker: [Ebele Okoye](#), Katarina Gulan

**Workshop-Talk: The M.A.R.K.13™- Group & Studio Isar Animation**

12:30 PM, Cinema

***The M.A.R.K.13 - Group*: 25 Years From Ludwisburg to La Mancha and Beyond**

We're celebrating 25 years of magic in 2024! Join us to see our evolution from our first days as students to a premiere group of animation producers, driven by the force of German Animation Engineering.

Speaker: Dominique Schuchmann

***Studio Isar Animation*: Crafting Giants: A Journey Through Teamwork and Artistry**

Exclusive insights into the creative processes behind their newest project "Giants of La Mancha".

Speaker: Sean Heuston, Alex Berweck, Oliver Summa

"Giants of La Mancha" will be screened as German premiere and with German Audio on Sunday 28/04, 3:30 PM, Gloria 2.

**Lecture: Disruptive Potential of Generative AI in Animation Production – Between Marketing Hype, Misconceptions, Co-Creation and Economic Pressure**

12:30 PM, Festival Centre, Eugen-Bolz-Saal

Current developments in generative machine learning can potentially affect all stages of animation production. Erwin Feyersinger will discuss in this talk how these understandings are shaped by marketing hype, economic pressure, co-creation and fictional representations of AI.

Speaker: [Erwin Feyersinger](#)

**School Presentation: *HSLU meets [adult swim]***

1 PM, Gloria 2

HSLU meets [adult swim] presents new idents, series highlights from adult swim as well as BA and MA graduation films from Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts.

Speaker: Jochen Ehmann (HSLU), Jürgen Haas (HSLU), Gerd Wolf (adult swim/Warner)

**Master Class: *Elie Chapuis - A Passion for Puppets***

3 PM, Cinema

Stop motion animator and director Elie Chapuis talks about the origins of his love of animation as well as his great passion for puppets and their professional use in his short and feature-length films. And of course some of his puppets will also be in the cinema.

Speaker: [Elie Chapuis](#)



**Film Talk: *Johnny & Me - Behind the Scenes, Making of, VFX Breakdown***

4:30 PM, Filmmakers Lounge

Katrin Rothe talks about her bag of tricks. A small cutout-animated puppet interacts with a real actress in a real basement archive. Analogue cutout stop-motion animation is skilfully combined with digital techniques. Katrin Rothe has been opening up new spaces for animated film for two decades now.

Speaker: [Katrin Rothe](#), Kerstin Zemp

*"Johnny & Me" will be screened on 27/04, 8:15 PM at the Open Air Cinema*

**Making of *ADAM: A Work in Progress***

5:30 PM, Cinema

Author-director Ron Segal and producer Esther Friedrich present the feature film project "Adam". They give insights into the contextual and visual development but also talk about aspects relevant to production and challenges within project development, financing and the positioning of this ambitious project.

Speaker: Esther Friedrich, Ron Segal, David Nasser

**Work in Progress: International Projects**

5:30 PM, Festival Centre, Eugen-Bolz-Saal

Filmmakers and producers provide insights into brand new animated feature film, short film, series and transmedia projects that are in various stages of production. The teams behind the projects will provide information on artistic decisions, production processes and on how they dealt with the many challenges they had and still have to face.

Work in Progress is also a platform for professional players looking for cooperation and financing partners.

**1. TIKI'S TALES**

New Zealand / in pre-production / 2D animation / fantasy, adventure / series ep. length 22 min. / from 5 years

Speaker: Tabea von Grünewaldt (screenwriter, creative director)

**2. THE BOY AT THE EDGE OF THE WORLD**

Poland, Turkey, Spain / in production, to premiere in 2025 / 2D animation / adventure / feature length film 80 min. / families and children 7 – 12 years old

Speaker: Grzegorz Waclawek (director), Marta Szymańska (director), [Animoon](#)

**3. INTRODUCING BOVINA CREAMCRACKER BUTTERMILK**

Ireland / in production / stop-motion / musical, LGBT+ / short film 3:30 min. adults

Speaker: Joe Coveney (puppet and set builder), John O'Connell (director, animator, puppet and set builder), [Studio 9](#)

**SUNDAY 28/04**

**School Presentation: *Filmakademie Baden-Württemberg & Animationsinstitut***

3 PM, Cinema

Get to know the latest Filmakademie projects from the full spectrum of animation – students and their lecturers from the various study programmes at Filmakademie and Animationsinstitut present their latest films.

Speaker: Nils Knoblich, Jai Wanigesinghe, Verena Fels, Martin Schmidt, Jürgen Klozenbücher, Andreas Hykade, Anna Brinkschulte